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Also a letter from M. Victor Motschulsky, proposing to exchange Russian Coleoptera for those of America.

Also a communication from the President of the Academy, William Hembel, Esq., reiterating his desire to decline a re-election to the office, and expressing his acknowledgments for the sentiments contained in the resolutions passed at the last meeting of the Society.

Dr. Morton read a continuation of his paper on the size of the Brain in the various races of Man, the first portion of which was presented at a former meeting. Referred to the same committee, viz., Messrs. Phillips, Hallowell and H. C. Lea.

On leave granted, the Committee to which was referred Dr. Le Conte's memoir, "An attempt to classify the Longicorn Coleoptera of that part of America north of Mexico," presented a report, recommending the same for publication in the Journal.

December 25th.

Prof. W. R. JOHNSON, in the Chair.

The committee to which was referred the following paper, by Dr. Leidy, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

Descriptions (accompanied by drawings,) of new Genera and Species of Entophyta.

BY JOSEPH LEIDY, M. D.

Enterobrus spiralis. Yellowish, brownish, brown, or hyaline, forming a single, double, or triple spiral. Peduncle brownish or yellowish, columnar, 1-2500th in. long, by 1-6000th in. thick. First or principal cell uniformly cylindrical, filled with granules and globules, 1-4285th in. in diameter. Penultimate cell cylindrical, filled with granules, 1-535th in. long, by 1-3333d in. at broadest part.

Length from 1-70th to 1-50th in., by 1-4200th in. broad.

Habitat.—Grows from the mucous membrane of the small intestine of *Julus pusillus*.

Remarks.—This species is found in varying quantity from a half dozen individuals up to fifty or more of various ages. The specimens of *Julus pusillus* from which the plant was obtained, measured half an inch in length.

Enterobrus attenuatus. Faintly brownish, yellowish, or hyaline, forming a double flexure or sigmoid curve, and then growing in a very straight course to its termination. Peduncle yellowish, columnar, sometimes double, 1-666th in. long, by 1-2300th in. broad. Principal cell attenuated at both extremities, rounded or truncated at the discal end, and filled with varying quantity of globules and granules. End cells?

Length 1-24th in.; diameter at middle 1-1500th in.; at sigmoid curve 1-2300th in.; at distal extremity 1-2500th in.

Habitat.—Grows in profusion from the mucous membrane of the ventriculus of *Passalus cornutus*.

Remarks.—This is a very graceful form, and is more disposed to grow in bunches or close together, than the other species. I have not met with it with the terminal two cells in twelve specimens of *Passalus*, which contained over a hundred of the plants, although from some of the individuals appearing truncated at the distal extremity, I think it probable that they may occur; otherwise it would form a distinct genus.

Cladophytum ramosissimum. Filaments very long, very delicate, and very much branched, growing in fasciculi of moderate density from granular masses.

Length 1-75th in.; thickness of principal filaments or trunks 1-15000th in.

Habitat.—Growing in moderate profuseness from the mucous membrane of *Passalus cornutus*.

New Genus. CORYNOCLADUS.*

Filaments hyaline, inarticulate, very compound; branches thicker than the trunk, clavate, without ramuli, growing from rounded or oval granular masses.

Corynocladus radiatus. Comatose, growing in very dense bunches, occasionally straggling; branches spreading, terminal ones very long, simple, clavate, 1-150th in. long.

Length 1-100th in., diameter of trunk 1-10,000 in., branches 1-600th in.

Habitat.—Growing profusely in the ventriculus of *Passalus cornutus*, from the mucous membrane.

New Genus. CRYPTODESMA.†

Filaments ribbon-like, growing from attached granular masses. Consisting of a single cell, with a very delicate cell wall, and minute granular contents.

C. tenuis. Filaments hyaline, compressed, attenuated at both extremities, growing in dense bunches from rounded granular masses. Cell wall very thin and delicate, granular contents of cell very fine and indistinct, measuring from 1-10,000th in. to 1-6000th in., with a few coarser granules, and occasionally a few globules, measuring 1-1875th in.

Dimensions. Length of filaments 1-500th in. to 1-75th in.; greatest breadth 1-1700th in.

Habitat.—Grows in profusion from the mucous membrane of the ventriculus of *Passalus cornutus*.

Besides the foregoing, I have found numerous free or floating entophyta in the contents, usually of the posterior part of the alimentary canal, in mammalia, aves, reptilia, pisces, mollusca, insecta, &c. These, at present, I do not feel at liberty to describe as new or particular, from my want of acquaintance with cryptogamic botany. A number of them, I have no doubt, if not peculiar, at least continue to grow luxuriantly in the intestinal canal; such are various *Mycoderma*, &c.; others very probably are swallowed with the food, and pass from the intestinal canal unchanged. Numerous drawings of these I exhibit to the Academy, and propose leaving them to future investigation, or to the consideration of cryptogamic botanists, being a field well worthy of their researches. I also have a number of others, the character of which is peculiarly entophytic; but these I have not yet studied out nor figured, but hope to present descriptions of them to the Academy in a very short time.

*Κερίνα clava; Κλάδος.

†Κρυπτός, occultus; δεσμός, fascis.

The Recording Secretary read the following report :

REPORT
OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.
For 1848, '49.

As there is no Report of the Recording Secretary for the year 1848 entered upon the Minutes of the Academy, it will be proper to give a short account of the Transactions of the Society during the last two years.

There were elected, during 1848, fourteen Resident Members and twenty-five Correspondents; and during 1849, eight Resident Members and six Correspondents. In the former year a corrected list of the Members and Correspondents was published, which comprises 102 Life Members, and 143 Members paying annually: of these, 63 are deceased; and 518 Correspondents, of whom 85 are deceased. Since the publication of the list, one member has resigned, and another, Benjamin J. Kern, M. D., is deceased.

From October, 1847, to the end of the last year, besides numerous minor communications, there have been fifty principal ones made to the Academy and published in its Proceedings, as follows: in General Natural History, one by Dr. Morton, two by Dr. Hallowell, two by Dr. Bachman, one by Dr. Michel, two by Dr. Keller, and ten by Dr. Leidy; in Mammalogy, one by Dr. Gambel; in Ornithology, ten by Mr. Cassin, two by Dr. Gambel, and one by Major McCall; in Herpetology, four by Dr. Hallowell; in Palæontology, one by Mr. Lea and three by Dr. Leidy; in Conchology, two by Mr. Conrad; in Entomology, three by Mr. Haldeman, one by Miss Morris, two by Dr. Savage, and one by Mr. Dawson; in Botany, one by Mr. Nuttall; and in Geology, one by Mr. Pease.

With the beginning of 1848, a new series of the Journal of the Academy, in quarto form, was commenced, and to it, during the past two years, there have been twenty-seven articles contributed, as follow: in General Natural History, one by Dr. Morton, one by Dr. Meigs, and two by Dr. Leidy; in Ornithology, five by Mr. Cassin and two by Dr. Gambel; in Herpetology, one by Prof. Baird; in Conchology, two by Mr. Conrad; in Entomology, two by Mr. Haldeman and two by Dr. Le Conte; in Botany, one by Mr. Nuttall; and in Palæontology, four by Dr. Gibbes, two by Mr. Conrad, one by Mr. Tuomey, and one by Prof. Owen. The publication of the Journal hereafter will be much assisted by an annual income derived from a legacy of two thousand dollars, bequeathed for that purpose to the Academy in 1848, by the late Mrs. Elizabeth Stott, of this city.

During the same year the following amendment was made to the By-Laws, viz.: "Chap. VIII. Art. IX. The Museum of the Academy shall be open to the gratuitous admission of the public on the afternoons of Tuesday and Friday from one o'clock until sunset." And during the last year the following amendment, viz.: "Chap. VI. Art. I. There shall be fifteen standing committees, viz.—1, The Ethnological Committee; 2, the Committee on Comparative Anatomy and General Zoology; 3, Committee on Mammalogy; 4, on Ornithology; 5, on Herpetology and Ichthyology; 6, on Conchology; 7, on Entomology; 8, on Botany; 9, on Palæontology; 10, on Geology and Mineralogy; 11, on Physics; 12, on the Library; 13, on the Proceedings; 14, the Auditors; each to consist

of three members ; and 15, the Publication Committee, to consist of five members ; whose term of service shall be one year. And all these, except the Auditors and Publication Committee, shall be elected at the last meeting in January of each year."

After these alterations, a new edition of the Act of Incorporation and By-Laws was published by order of the Academy.

With these few statistics, etc. of the transactions of the Academy, the Secretary will conclude by stating, that the Society was never in a more flourishing condition than at present, as is plainly indicated in its published Proceedings. The Library and Museum have received, and continue to receive, constant large and valuable additions, as may be seen upon referring to the reports of the Librarian and Curators.

JOSEPH LEIDY,
Recording Secretary,
pro tempore.

December 25, 1849.

The Treasurer read the annual report, which was referred to the Auditors.

The Librarian read the following report :—

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN,
For the year 1849.

In presenting the annual report on the state of the Library, the Librarian again embraces the opportunity afforded him, of congratulating the Society on the continued advancement which his department has made in the present year.

The additions to the Library will fully bear comparison in all respects with those of any previous year, as the following table will exhibit, in which they have been arranged in the usual form.

	Number of Volumes.	Periodicals and serials in parts, numbers, livs. &c.	Pamphlets.		Number of Volumes.	Periodicals and serials in parts, numbers, livs. &c.	Pamphlets.
General Natural History,...	90	19	14	Brought over.....	445	223	115
Mammalogy,.....	20		5	Physical Sci. and Chemistry,.....	5		7
Ornithology,.....	47	69	3	Medicine,.....		11	2
Herpetology,.....	9		4	Trans and Proceed. of Soc.,.....			
Ichthyology,.....	13		8	Annals, Journals, &c.....	238	269	
Entomology and Crustacea,.....	69	26	12	Voyages and Travels,.....	82	30	
Conchology and Helminthology,.....	32	54	15	History,.....	2		3
Botany,.....	35	27	8	Bio,raphy,.....	2		
Geology,.....	60	18	22	Antiquities,.....	2		
Mineralogy,.....	10		7	Geography,.....	1		1
Anatomy and Physiology,...	60	10	17	Bibliography,.....	9		
	445	223	115	Education,.....	2		
				Miscellaneous,.....	1		10
					789	535	138

Of these, there were derived from authors 68 ; from editors 25 ; from members, correspondents, &c. 150 ; from Societies and Corporations 59 ; from Dr. Wilson 1158 ; making an aggregate of 1460 additions to the Library in 1849.

The additions in 1847 amounted to 1072 ; in 1848 to 1349, and in the present year exceeding the last by 111.

With one exception these have been the most prosperous years for the Library since the foundation of the Institution. In these three years the additions have amounted to 3881 ; of which, 2773 are due to Dr. Wilson, and the remainder, 1108, have been derived from other sources.

The Librarian has renewed gratification in calling attention to the continued liberality during the year of Dr. Wilson. The Library has always received a large share of the interest and zeal which this gentleman has steadily manifested for the Institution, and the results have been recorded on our minutes almost weekly for several years past, in the long list of varied, well selected, and highly practical works which he has placed upon its shelves.

Until within a short period, these works have been entrusted to the Society for the benefit of the members, without other restrictions than such as its rules, and a due regard for the property, required. Dr. Wilson has, however, thought proper to convert this splendid collection from a *deposit* into a *donation*, and I have now the pleasure of announcing to the Society that we shall soon be in possession of the whole collection, on the single condition that the use of the works be restricted to the Hall : none of them, therefore, will be loaned from the Hall on any pretext whatever. The numerous works in Mineralogy and Geology, Entomology, Herpetology and Ichthyology, Conchology, Botany, General Natural History, Mammalogy, Voyages and Travels, and the Periodicals have already been presented. The remainder will follow as the time and leisure of the donor will admit of his preparing the lists.

Among the additions this year are a number of works on Conchology, obtained by purchase with the proceeds of the sale of several copies of Say's Conchology, for which latter the Society is indebted to the liberality of Mrs. Lucy W. Say, by whose instructions the fund is thus appropriated. We are under obligations also this year, to Professor Agassiz, for a donation of numerous quarto volumes of the Transactions of two Swiss Natural History Societies ; and to our venerable President, William Hembel, Esq., for a valuable and scarce work in 41 vols. 8vo. the Transactions of the London Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce. Dr. Wilson's donation of the Transactions of the Royal Society of London complete from the origin of the publication in 1665, to the middle of 1849, in 119 quarto vols., with the abridgement of the same, from 1665 to 1800, in 18 quarto vols., by Hutton, Shaw and Pearson, has been received with the highest gratification by the members.

In the last report, it was stated that further accommodations for the Books would soon be required, the space in the present apartment becoming rapidly occupied. This necessity has since greatly increased, and, in consequence a plan has been submitted to the Society, and received its sanction, for adapting one of the adjoining rooms to the purposes of a Library. The floor of this room, and that of the entry beyond, will be lowered to a level with the present Library, and laid on iron joist, with intervening brick arches, and a gallery constructed similar to, and communicating with, that in the same. The work will

be commenced forthwith, and will be completed in a few weeks. The building, with the exception of one room, will then be perfectly fire-proof. When this improvement has been finished, and a new arrangement and distribution of the Library made, the exact No. of vols. &c. in each department, with the aggregate, which it was intended to have appended to the present report, will be made known to the Society.

WM. S. ZANTZINGER,

Librarian.

Hall of the Academy, Dec. 25, 1849.

Dr. Leidy, Chairman of the Curators, read the annual report as follows:

REPORT OF THE CURATORS

For 1849.

It is with much pleasure the Curators, in presenting their Annual Report, can say that the collections of the Academy, during the year 1849, have increased to such an extent as to be indicative of a continuance of the extraordinary prosperity which it enjoyed the two preceding years. Most of the departments have been enriched through donation and deposit, with many rare and valuable objects.

Since the presentation of the last report of the Curators, there has been constructed a line of horizontal, centrally vertical, double cases, down the centre of the Hall, for the further accommodation of the palæontological collection; a large, deep, horizontal, double case at the east end of the same, for the reception of the larger specimens of organic remains; a line of horizontal cases on the outside of the railing of the lower gallery, on each side of the Hall, for containing the Oological collection; and several vertical cases, occupying the landing of the stair-case in the south-east corner, for the extension, of the Ornithological collection.

A short account of the increase in the Museum during the past year we give under the head of each department.

Mammalogy.—In this department, during the past year, we have received 22 species of Mammalia, among which may be particularly mentioned the original specimen, described by Dr. Harlan, of *Chlamyphorus truncatus*, a magnificent albino deer, *Cervus virginianus*, presented by Dr. Wilson, and a fine *Ornithorhynchus paradoxus*, presented by Dr. Michael.

Ornithology.—A special report upon this extensive department of our Museum has been prepared by Mr. Cassin, on which account it is unnecessary for us to make any remark upon it, except that during the past year there have been added to it, from other sources than Dr. Wilson, 61 species, 76 specimens of birds.

In *Oology* we have been enriched by the deposit from Dr. Wilson of two very large and celebrated collections of birds' eggs. The first of these is a general and very extensive collection, made through a long period of time, and at great expense and trouble, by M. O. Des Murs, of Paris. This contains 1281 species, 2449 specimens, and 10 nests, of which 1041 species are determined. The second is a collection of birds' eggs, exclusively of Australia, made by Mr. John

Gould of London. It comprises 303 species, 976 specimens, and 33 nests, of which 295 species are determined.

In the latter collection of eggs are 58 species contained in the former; deducting these, the number of species in the two collections amounts to 1526, of which 1278 are determined. The whole number of specimens in the two collections is 4425.

When we consider the difficulty of obtaining and determining oological specimens, the delicacy required in their preparation, and the care necessary for their preservation in transportation, we may in some measure form an estimate of the value of this rich deposit.

Besides the above, we have received from several of the members 12 species and 15 specimens of birds' eggs, and 9 species of nests.

Herpetology and Ichthyology.—In the past year these collections were removed, and rearranged upon the flying gallery of the east basement room. During the same time we have received 20 species, 50 specimens of reptilia, and 8 species, 11 specimens of fishes, among the latter of which is a very beautiful specimen of *Lepidosteus ferox*, Raf., from the Mississippi, presented by Mr. J. D. Anderson, of New Orleans.

Mollusca.—In this department, the donations during the past year are unparalleled in America. To our generous and excellent fellow member, Dr. R. E. Griffith, we owe lasting gratitude for the splendid gift of 4907 species, over 12,000 specimens of shells, being the private collection made by this gentleman at much cost and pains, during a long series of years. To Dr. T. B. Wilson we are indebted, as ever, for the donation of 1707 species, over 3500 specimens of shells.

These two collections comprise 5405 species, of which the odd 405 may be cast off as duplicate, certainly not more, as we are informed by Dr. Griffith, who is Chairman of the Conchological Committee, and is engaged in arranging this department, which would leave a balance of 5000 different species.

From the Australian Museum, in exchange, we received 111 species, 328 specimens, Australian, New Zealand, and South Sea Island shells.

From various other sources 105 species, 204 specimens of shells, principally presented by Mr. McAndrew, of England, Dr. Gould, of Boston, Mr. Thompson, of Belfast, Ireland, and Mr. Watson, of S. Africa.

Insecta, Crustacea, and Arachnida.—The Entomological cabinet has received the addition of 200 species of insects, principally from Mr. Hagedorn, the Bavarian Consul, and in exchange from the Australian Museum.

Of Crustacea there have been obtained, by exchange and presentation, 59 species, 163 specimens, principally from M. E. Griffith, Mr. Thompson, of Belfast, Ireland, and Dr. Wilson.

Of Arachnida we obtained 2 species, 4 specimens of Scorpio.

Radata.—Of these we have received an unusually large number, viz., 112 species, 120 specimens, principally from Mr. Thompson in exchange; the others presented by different members of the society. Most of them are Echinodermata and Polypi.

Comparative Anatomy.—To this part of our Museum an extensive addition has been made, through the liberality of our fellow-member Dr. P. B. Goddard, consisting of 106 crania of mammalia, 30 do. birds, 4 do. reptiles, and 3 do. fishes;

8 skeletons of mammalia, 6 do. birds, and 2 do. reptiles ; and 21 other interesting pieces in comparative anatomy.

Dr. Wilson also extended this collection by the donation of 22 mounted skeletons of birds, principally Australian, and 5 other anatomical pieces.

Besides the foregoing, there have been deposited and presented 39 other crania and pieces, principally by Dr. Morton.

Botany.—The herbarium has received the addition, through exchange and donation, of 160 species of Cryptogamia.

Palæontology.—A large collection of organic remains has been added to the Museum by Dr. Wilson, consisting of 658 species, 1552 specimens of British fossils, many of which are very beautiful and rare.

From other sources we have received 197 fossils, principally from Messrs. Verreaux of Paris, Budd, McMinn and Morton.

A few weeks since our sister institution, the American Philosophical Society, passed a resolution to deposit its Collection of Organic Remains with the Academy. The large number of mammalian remains in this collection renders it one of the most important deposits which has yet been made to our Museum. When received, a more particular account of it will be given.

Mineralogy and Geology.—The cabinet of Mineralogy contains over 3700 labelled specimens, exclusive of rocks. During the past year there were received 206 specimens, chiefly from Messrs. Moss, Verreaux and Wilson.

We will finish this brief report by stating that the collections in all the departments are, at the present time, in a good state of preservation, and are gradually undergoing arrangement by the different committees.

JOSEPH LEIDY,

Chairman of Curators.

December 25th, 1849.

Mr. Cassin, from the Curators, read the following special report on the state of the Ornithological collection :

At the request of the Chairman of the Curators of this Academy, the undersigned begs leave to offer a Special Report upon the department of Ornithology in which, as Curator, he has been exclusively engaged.

Having had the honor of submitting a report of a similar character at the annual meeting in December 1847, I have now the pleasure of stating that the following collections, which had been partly received or were about to be received at that period, have arrived, and have been completely arranged in our Ornithological Galleries, within the past two years ; viz. the very extensive collection of the Prince Massena of Paris, the collection of Mr. Bourcier of Lyons, Dr. Gambel's North American collection, and all the very valuable and interesting collections obtained by purchase and exchange in Europe by Mr. Edward Wilson ; while of the Australian collection of the distinguished Ornithologist Mr. Gould, about two-thirds of the birds, and the entire collection of nests and eggs, have been received. The detention of the latter, has arisen from the fact that it was found expedient to have the specimens mounted in Europe, the collection having been *in skin* at the time of purchase.

It is perhaps unnecessary for me to again allude to the high scientific value of these collections or to the excellent condition in which they have reached their destination; I may state merely that all have fully answered the expectations of the gentlemen of this Academy, and have afforded great instruction and gratification to Zoologists and admirers of Natural History from all sections of our country. I beg to add that the extensive collections formed in the cities of Europe, expressly for this Society, by Mr. Edward Wilson, at the instance of his brother, our esteemed associate, Dr. Thomas B. Wilson, have proved to be of special interest. These were intended to supply deficiencies in the already comprehensive collections just named, an undertaking which appeared to me, I confess, very difficult at least, if not hopeless, but Mr. Wilson's success has been most remarkable. I have frequently alluded to his specimens in the papers which I have had the honor at various times of submitting to the Society; it is sufficient to say further, that in the course of my examinations of species, when I have found, as has often been the case, a specimen in an unusual stage of plumage, or some odd looking variety, serving the most useful purpose of illustration, it was pretty certain to turn out to be one of Mr. Wilson's collecting. To him we are also indebted for several undescribed species, and a large number new to the collection.

Our valued associate Mr. Edward Harris has presented to the Academy, during the past year, his entire collection. This was formed during the long period of his connection with Mr. Audubon, and embraces many specimens of the various species described by the latter gentleman, and of many other rare or little known American species; in fact, never since the arrival of Dr. Townsend from the Columbia river, in 1837, has a collection come into the possession of this Society of a character so interesting to the student of North American Ornithology. The peculiar character of Mr. Harris' collection will readily be perceived when I state that it contains the original specimens of several of the species described by Mr. Audubon, such as *Quiscalus Breweri*, *Sturnella neglecta*, *Fringilla Harrisii* and *Lincolni*, *Alauda Spraguei*, *Emberiza Bairdii*, and *Vireo Belli*, numerous specimens of *Emberiza pallida* and *grammaca*, *Fringilla aurocapilla*, *amœna* and *Townsendii*, *Pica hudsonica* and *Nuttallii*, *Alauda rufa*, *Erythrospiza frontalis*, *Sturnella hippocrepis*, *Pipilo oregona* and *arctica*, *Hirundo thalassina*, *Sialia arctica* and *occidentalis*, *Tyrannula Sayæ*, *Parus melanotis*, *Troglodytes brevirostris* and *obsoletus*, *Vermivora Tolmæi*, *Lophortyx plumifera*, *Tetrao obscurus* and *phasianellus*, and many others equally difficult to obtain.

I must specially mention, however, a series of no less than 25 specimens of the intricately allied species of *Colaptes*, which inhabit our Western territory, referable to *C. auratus*, *mexicanus*, and *Ayresii*, which illustrates the judicious manner in which Mr. Harris formed his collection, and is additional, though unnecessary evidence of his excellent judgment in Ornithological science.

The distinguished naturalist, Mr. J. J. Audubon, has presented the original specimen of *Caprimulgus Nuttallii*, Aud., and *Colaptes Ayresii*, Aud., both of which are valuable additions, and the former, as yet, an unique specimen of a very remarkable species from California.

A collection of Asiatic birds, and an extensive collection of nests and eggs, have been presented by Professor Spencer F. Baird of Dickinson College. A collection of nests and eggs being then about to be formed in connexion with our Ornithological collection, this donation was peculiarly acceptable, and evinces the con-

tinued desire of this talented and accomplished young naturalist to serve this Academy.

Wm. Gambel, M. D., has presented numerous specimens, among which are suites of specimens of *Merula minor* (Gm.), *Wilsonii* (Bonap.), and *olivaceus* (Giraud.), and other obscure American species; in the study and elucidation of which he has been eminently successful.

A. L. Heermann, M. D., has presented a large collection of eggs, collected by him in Florida, and numerous specimens of birds from the same locality. Of the latter I may enumerate as possessing especial interest, several specimens of *Cymindis hamatus*, Less., *Vireo longirostris*, Sw., *Thalasseus regius*, Gambel, *Sternula frenata*, Gambel, and also numerous specimens of *Ardea rufescens*, Gm., and of *Ardea Pealei*, Bonap., representing various stages of plumage, and demonstrating that the latter is a distinct species as originally described by Mr. Bonaparte.

W. S. Jones, M. D., of Riceboro, Georgia, has deposited the original and yet unique specimen of *Picus Lecontei*, Jones, a curious little tridactyle species discovered by him in Georgia, and possessing great interest as an addition to the fauna of this country.

Another addition to our fauna, the *Anas Rafflesii*, King, has been made this year, by E. Pilate, M. D., of Opelousas, Louisiana, a specimen of which, being the first ever observed within the limits of the United States, has been presented by him to this Society.

A specimen of *Strix flammea*, Linn., from Western Africa, very interesting on account of its locality, has been presented by our esteemed correspondent Mr. George N. Lawrence, of New York.

The Academy has also to acknowledge its indebtedness to Mrs. John B. Smith of this city, for a beautiful specimen of *Nycthemerus pictus*, (Linn.); to C. Wistar, M. D., for an interesting specimen of a dwarf variety of the common fowl; to Mr. William Ayr for a specimen of the *Egretta alba*, (Linn.)—to our valued associate Mr. Samuel Ashmead for various specimens collected by him at Cape May: to John G. Howard for two living specimens of *Columbia cyanocephala*, Linn., brought by him from Cuba, expressly for the Academy, and for other donations.

One of the most remarkable as well as valuable additions recently made to the Ornithological collection is the extensive collection of nests and eggs formed by Mons. O. des Murs, of Paris, author of the "Iconographie Ornithologique," now in the course of publication, and well known as an Ornithologist. This splendid collection, like nearly the whole of the present contents of our Ornithological galleries, came into possession of this Society through the influence of Messrs. Thomas B. and Edward Wilson. It embraces no less than 3450 specimens, being the eggs of 1281 species, from all parts of the world, in very perfect condition, many of which are to be obtained only with great difficulty.

I may be allowed to state in connexion with this subject, that Mr. Gould's collection of eggs previously alluded to, contain 976 specimens, or 303 species. The entire collection now in the Museum of the Academy, is but partially arranged, but deducting duplicates, it may safely be estimated as containing the eggs of about 1500 species, about 1200 of which are named.

I consider it proper to state here, that in the arrangement of the collection resulting from the combination of those above mentioned, the collection previously

belonging to this Society has been carefully preserved. This will be found to contain not only many specimens of rare scientific value, (such as the original specimens of the species discovered by Dr. Townsend, many rare Mexican species from Dr. Burrough, and the fine Surinam collection from Dr. Hering) but also many highly prized mementoes of the friends and associates of our Society, to whose kind exertions the formation of the nucleus of our present extensive collection is to be attributed, such as Dr. Marmaduke Burrough, Dr. Ralph Hammersly, Mr. Thomas Ryan, Dr. George C. Leib, Dr. Wm. Blanding, Mr. Wm. Hembel, Dr. W. S. W. Ruschenberger, Dr. S. G. Morton, Dr. C. Hering, Dr. Jno. K. Townsend, Mr. W. S. Warder, Dr. J. Trudeau, Dr. A. L. Heermann, Dr. E. A. Abadie, Dr. C. Huffnagle, Mr. Richard C. Taylor, Mr. J. W. Rulon, Dr. Gavin Watson, Mr. Wm. S. Vaux, Dr. Thomas McEuen, Mr. John Speakman, Mr. A. F. Darley, Mr. Geo. W. Carpenter, Mr. Thomas Fisher, Mr. W. A. Foster, Dr. P. B. Goddard, Dr. C. W. Pennock, Mr. Robert Pearsall, Mr. J. Price Wetherill, Dr. S. W. Woodhouse, Mr. Samuel Ashmead, Mr. John G. Bell, and many others.

There is at present another large addition about being made to the collection of which a few specimens have already arrived. It is a collection formed during several years residence in the interior of India, by Captain Boys, of the British Army, and contains about 1000 specimens, among which are many new and rare objects. It is now in the hands of Mr. Gould, who wishes to make drawings of various specimens for his forthcoming work on the birds of Asia, and will probably arrive in the course of the ensuing year.

There is also now in the possession of the Academy and intended for its Museum, though not yet presented, a valuable collection made by our fellow member Mr. E. L. Kern, who has been attached as artist to several of the expeditions of Col. Fremont, and is now in California. This was collected by Mr. Kern during the expedition of 1845, and contains numerous specimens of such interesting species as *Cathartes Californianus*, *Archibuteo regalis*, *Athene hypugæa*, *Nucifraga Columbiana* and *Cyanocephala*, (De Weid), *Picus scalaris* and *melanopogon*, *Cyanocorax californicus* and *coronatus*, *Columba fasciata*, *Frin-gilla oregona*, *Paris minimus*, *septentrionalis* and *montanus*, and many others.

Arrangements for further additions have also been completed, which will ensure all attainable desiderata arriving in the cities of Paris and London, and arrangements for exchange or purchase have been completed or are now in progress with several distinguished ornithologists, or with commercial naturalists in other parts of Europe; and I may state in addition, that our Museum will without doubt be further enriched by the researches of several of our members who have availed themselves of facilities at present existing for visiting California; among whom are Messrs. E. W. and R. H. Kern, who were attached to the late unfortunate expedition of Col. Fremont, Dr. Heermann, Mr. J. G. Bell and Dr. Gambel, and also by the acquisitions of one of our own most talented and enterprising young naturalists Dr. S. W. Woodhouse, now absent upon a government expedition to the Arkansas river.

I am enabled to state that the number of specimens of birds actually exhibited in the Museum of this Academy at the date of this Report, (Dec. 25th, 1849,) is nineteen thousand seven hundred and seventy-one (19,771). The number of species cannot at present be ascertained, but I hope to present such information

to the Society at the earliest possible period ; I should state, too, that several thousand duplicates are not exhibited.

The labelling and preparations for a catalogue of this immense collection are constantly progressing. The necessary investigations for these purposes have been found to embrace the examination of the descriptions of all known species, as far as practicable, and very frequently involve critical comparisons of both descriptions and specimens, which require the most diligent and cautious research. In fact, the proper study of the collection of the Academy will be found to demand little short of a general survey of the whole Ornithological kingdom, as well as the entire literature of Ornithology, which it is hoped will be regarded as sufficient apology for any apparent tardiness on the part of those engaged in that department.

Respectfully submitted by

JOHN CASSIN, Curator.

Hall of the Academy, December 25th, 1849.

The Society then went into an election for officers for the ensuing year, with the following result :—

<i>President,</i>		SAMUEL GEORGE MORTON, M.D.
<i>Vice Presidents,</i>		J. Price Wetherill, R. Eglesfeld Griffith, M. D.
<i>Corresponding Secretary,</i>		John Cassin.
<i>Recording Secretary,</i>		Samuel Powel.
<i>Librarian,</i>		Wm. S. Zantzing, M. D.
<i>Treasurer,</i>		George W. Carpenter.
<i>Curators,</i>		Joseph Leidy, M. D. Wm. S. Vaux, Samuel Ashmead, John Cassin,
<i>Auditors,</i>		Wm. S. Vaux, Robert Pearsall, Samuel Ashmead.
<i>Publication Committee,</i>		Wm. S. Vaux, R. E. Griffith, S. G. Morton, Thomas B. Wilson, R. Bridges, M. D.

Election of Member and Correspondents.

Wm. Robertson Grant, M. D., of Philadelphia, was elected a *Member* ; and Mr. Wm. S. Sharpey, of London, and Mr. John D. Goodsir, of Edinburgh, were elected *Correspondents*.